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ABSTRACT

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ABSTRACT: This technical paper examines and analyzes demographic, economic, and land use development patterns in Rhode Island.

PREFACE

The Statewide Planning Program is preparing an update of State Guide Plan Element 121, *Land Use 2010: State Land Use Policies and Plan*, published 1989. This technical paper is intended to be a source for the updated land use plan. It is a companion piece to Technical Paper 146, *Land Use Trends in Rhode Island 1961 - 1988*, which was published in July 1998.

Many different sources were used in gathering the data for this report. Some sources, such as the U.S. Bureau of the Census, have detailed data reaching back to the origin of Rhode Island as a State. Other sources only had reliable data reaching back a decade. Rather than be constrained by the weakest link in the data chain, we chose to report whatever we could reasonably obtain and have confidence in. We note in the text those areas where data had to be extrapolated or estimated. We should note that some of the population data from the 1990 census has been questioned for undercounting inner-city residents. While this may be so, it is the best that is currently available.

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